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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/937,986	01/02/2002	Martin Griesser	AP9610	8850

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EXAMINER

BROADHEAD, BRIAN J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3661

DATE MAILED: 08/01/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/937,986

Applicant(s)

GRIESSER, MARTIN

Examiner

Brian J. Broadhead

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 25-44 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 25-44 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 January 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 25-30, and 32-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Liu et al., 5760682.

3. As per claims 25 and 36, Liu et al. disclose determining a loss of tire pressure by monitoring at least one of the vehicle parameters, vehicle speed, longitudinal acceleration, yaw rate, transverse acceleration, steering angle, curve characteristics quantity, wheel acceleration, wheel slip, wheel slip gradient, tire torsion and modifying the response of one or more vehicle control systems based on the results of the determining step on lines 63-66, on column 1.

4. As per claims 26, 30, 37, and 38, Liu et al. disclose the modifying step further includes modifying the response of a vehicle brake control system, wherein a brake control nominal value, a response threshold, or a control algorithm for the brake system is set or changed in dependence on the loss in tire pressure on lines 63-66, on column 1.

5. As per claims 27, 28, and 29, Liu et al. further discloses changing a wheel specific nominal value for the wheel that has sustained a pressure loss, a wheel that

has not lost wheel pressure, and all the wheels when the loss in pressure is unknown on lines 1-5, on column 4.

6. As per claims 32, 33, 34, and 39, Liu et al. disclose determining a test quantity from an input quantity for the purpose of pressure loss detection, wherein the input quantity is modified according to the driving dynamics variable on lines 18-35, on column 4; and determining a loss of tire pressure remains undone when the vehicle parameters lie outside a predetermined range of parameter values on lines 18-35, on column 4.

7. As per claims 35 and 44, Liu et al. disclose determining a modification quantity during operation of the vehicle and storing said modification quantity in a non-volatile fashion on lines 1-10, on column 5.

8. As per claims 41 and 42, Liu et al. disclose wherein the determining device operates with respect to an input quantity, and wherein the modification device modifies the input quantity according to the driving dynamics variable on lines 1-5, on column 4.

9. As per claim 43, Liu et al. disclose the modification device leaves the pressure loss detection undone when the driving dynamics variable lies outside a predetermined range of values on lines 20-35, on column 4.

10.

11. Claims 25-31, and 36-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yamamoto, 5546308.

12. As per claims 25, 31, and 36, Yamamoto discloses determining a loss of tire pressure by monitoring at least one of the vehicle parameters, vehicle speed,

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longitudinal acceleration, yaw rate, transverse acceleration, steering angle, curve characteristics quantity, wheel acceleration, wheel slip, wheel slip gradient, tire torsion and modifying the response of one or more vehicle control systems based on the results of the determining step on lines 35-40, on column 5; and limiting the maximum speed of the vehicle by engine intervention when pressure loss is detected on lines 35-40, on column 5.

13. As per claims 26, 30, 37, and 38, Yamamoto discloses the modifying step further includes modifying the response of a vehicle brake control system, wherein a brake control nominal value, a response threshold, or a control algorithm for the brake system is set or changed in dependence on the loss in tire pressure on lines 50-60, on column 5.

14. As per claims 27, 28, and 29, Yamamoto further discloses changing a wheel specific nominal value for the wheel that has sustained a pressure loss, a wheel that has not lost wheel pressure, and all the wheels when the loss in pressure is unknown on lines 35-50, on column 6.

Conclusion

15. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

16. Skotnikov, 6212464, discloses slip control using an automatic central tire inflation system.

17. Toukura et al., 6269289, disclose process of forming standard resistance value and vehicle control using the same.

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18. Nantz et al., US 2002/0069008 A1, disclose tire pressure vehicle speed limiting.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian J. Broadhead whose telephone number is 703-308-9033. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William A. Cuchlinski can be reached on 703-308-3873. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-7687 for regular communications and 703-305-7687 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1113.

BJB
July 28, 2003



WILLIAM A. CUCHLINSKI, JR.
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600